

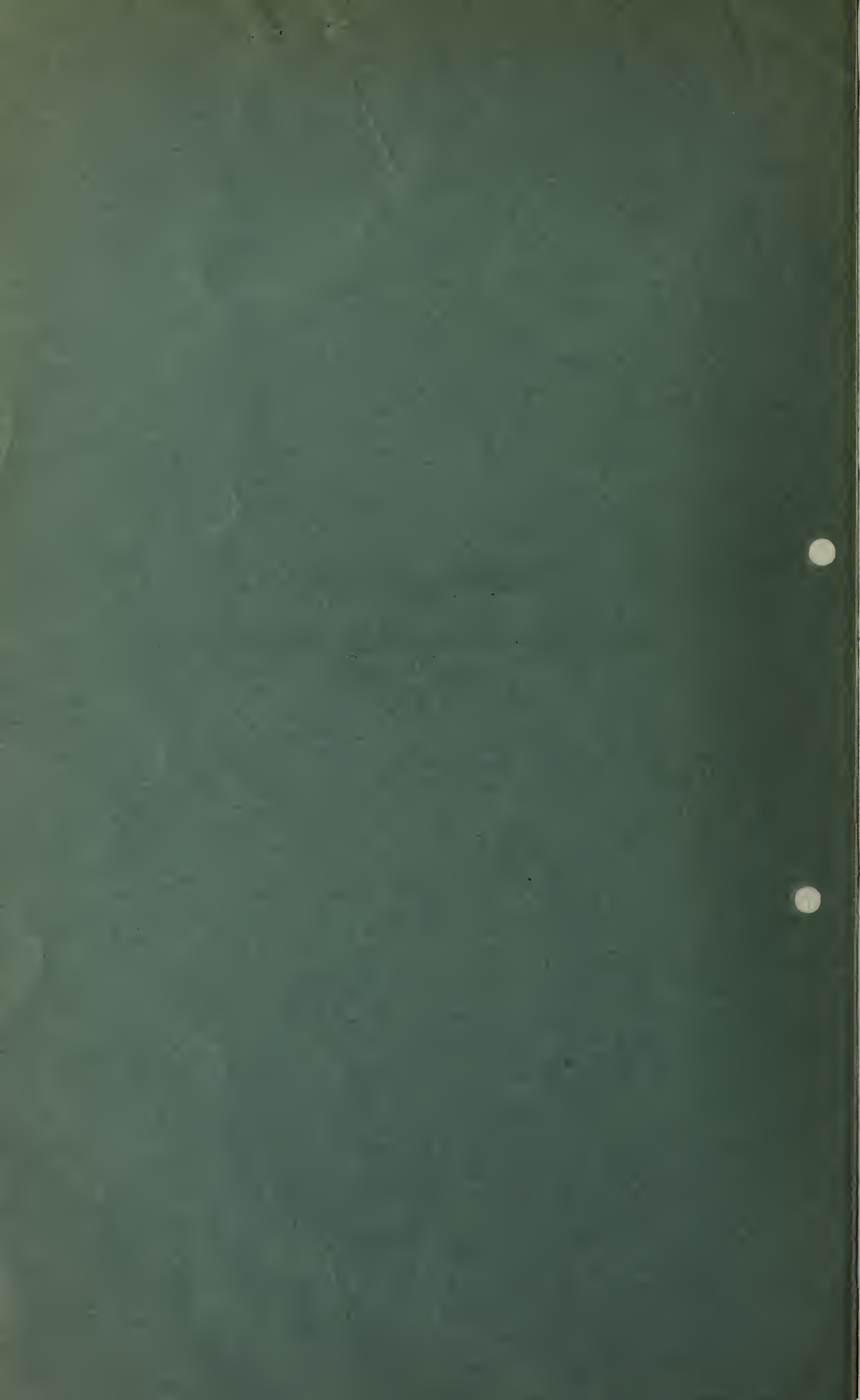
BLANDFORD RURAL DISTRICT  
COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR

1961





STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTHDEPARTMENT.MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

G.B. Hopkins, M.B., Ch.B., B.Pharm. D.P.H.

holding appointments of:-

Senior

Assistant County Medical Officer.	}	5/11th of time.
School Medical Officer.		

Medical Officer of Health -	Blandford Rural District.	}	6/11th of Time.
Medical Officer of Health -	Borough of Blandford Forum.		
Medical Officer of Health -	Wimborne and Cranborne R.D.C.		
Medical Officer of Health -	Wimborne Minster Urban District.		

Blandford Rural District.....	$\frac{1}{2}$ day per week.
Borough of Blandford Forum.....	$\frac{1}{4}$ day per week.
Wimborne and Cranborne Rural District.....	$1\frac{1}{2}$ days per week.
Wimborne Minster Urban District.....	$\frac{1}{3}$ day per week.

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR with combined duties as Surveyor:-

G.S.C. Udall, M.R.S.H., F.A.P.H.I., A.F.S. (Eng.)

ASSISTANT PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR:-

M. Stockley. Cert. R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

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BLANDFORD RURAL DISTRICT  
COUNCIL.

1961.

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE.

COUNCILLORS: -

CHAIRMAN..... C.B.C. Roe.  
VICE-CHAIRMAN..... C.B.O. Jones.

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Miss A.G. Biddlecombe.	Brig.J.M.Harmer.
J.F. Brown.	E.K. Hooper.
K.R. Browning.	F.H.B.Mainwaring-
Lt.Col. A.L. Cameron.	Burton.
E.E. Cossins.	Capt. F. Ratsey.
A.B.C. Davis.	J.G. Vincent.

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Nordon,  
Salisbury Road,  
BLANDFORD FORUM.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

The following pages constitute my Annual Report for 1961. Fairly extensive details are incorporated about water supplies at the request of the Ministry, the year representing the first full year of operation by the Poole and East Dorset Water Board, who kindly supplied much information.

The district is fortunate in having very large supplies of good quality water capable of being tapped, and practically the whole rural district was either already receiving or about to receive a mains supply.

G.B. Hopkins.

JULY, 1962.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH



# SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS.

Area in acres.....	61, 717
Population as estimated by Registrar General (mid-year).....	11, 280
Rateable value at 1st April, 1961.....	£99, 469
Estimated number of inhabited houses at 31st December, 1961...	£2, 816.
Product of penny rate at 1st April, 1961.....	£100

## AS SUPPLIED BY THE REGISTRAR GENERAL

### LIVE BIRTHS.

### Comparative Statistics.

	<u>Total.</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female..</u>	<u>Blandford Rural.</u>	<u>England &amp; Wales.</u>	<u>Administrative cty.</u>
Total registered.....	174	80	94			
Legitimate.....	162	73	89			
Illegitimate.....	12	7	5			
Standardised rate.....				15.4	17.4	15.2

### STILLBIRTHS.

Total registered.....	4	2	2
Legitimate.....	4	2	2
Illegitimate.....	-	-	-

### DEATHS

Total registered.....	98	51	47	
Standardised rate.....				
		9. 6	12. 0	12.9

### Comparability Factors:-

Births.....	1.00
Deaths.....	1.10

## SECTION A NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

Area.....	61, 717
Population as estimated by Registrar General - (mid-year).....	11. 280

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This figure is fairly accurate, being largely based upon the 1961 census. The apparent sharp drop of 1,210 since 1960 represents the cumulative inaccuracies in the annual estimates which built up since the previous census. Its extent is rather surprising nevertheless, being about 10% of the 1960 estimate.

PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY

This is situated at Dorchester and provides an excellent, readily available bacteriological service.

AMBULANCE SERVICE.

This is run by the Dorset County Council and operates day and night from Castleman House, Blandford.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE SERVICES.

Dorset County Council continue to provide an Infant Welfare Centre once a fortnight in Blandford.

HOME HELP SERVICE.

The County Home Help Scheme provided a service operated from Dorchester.

SECTION C.  
PREVALANCE OF AND CONTROL OVER  
INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Measles.....	97
Pneumonia.....	18
Whooping cough.....	12
Erysipelas.....	2
Tuberculosis.....	2
Sonne Dysentery.....	4
Scarlet fever.....	1

TUBERCULOSIS

At the end of the year, the number of cases registered was:-

PULMONARY

Males..... 20  
Females..... 10

NON-PULMONARY

Males..... 2  
Females..... 1

VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION STATISTICS.

Poliomyelitis.			Diphtheria.		Whooping Cough.		Tetanus.		Smallpox.	
P.	3rd.	4th.	P.	B.	P.	B.	P.	B.	P.	B.
548.	674.	760	173.	214.	155.	67.	203.	162.	220.	63

B.C.G.

177

(This figure of 177 includes the  
Borough of Blandford.)

P = Primary course of two, 3 or 4 injections.  
B = Booster dose of one single injection



SECTION D  
STATISTICAL TABLES..... 1961

6

Cause of Death.	Male.	Female.	Total.
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory.....	-	1	1
2. Tuberculosis, other.....	-	-	-
3. Syphilitic disease.....	-	-	-
4. Diphtheria.....	-	-	-
5. Whooping cough.....	-	-	-
6. Meningococcal infections.....	-	-	-
7. Acute poliomyelitis.....	-	-	-
8. Measles.....	-	-	-
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases.....	-	-	-
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach.....	1	-	1
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus.....	2	-	2
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast.....	-	2	2
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus.....	-	1	1
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms.....	5	4	9
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia.....	2	-	2
16. Diabetes.....	-	-	-
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system.....	5	8	13
18. Coronary disease, angina.....	11	4	15
19. Hypertension with heart disease.....	-	-	-
20. Other heart disease.....	8	11	19
21. Other circulatory disease.....	3	1	4
22. Influenza.....	-	1	1
23. Pneumonia.....	2	3	5
24. Bronchitis.....	3	-	3
25. Other diseases of respiratory system.....	-	-	-
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum.....	-	-	-
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea.....	-	-	-
28. Nephritis and pephrosis.....	-	-	-
29. Hyperplasia of prostate.....	2	-	2
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion.....	-	-	-
31. Congenital malformations.....	-	1	1
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases.....	2	9	11
33. Motor vehicle accidents.....	1	-	1
34. All other accidents.....	2	-	2
35. Suicide.....	2	-	2
36. Homicide and operations of war.....	-	1	1
<b>TOTAL..</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>98</b>

ADMINISTRATION.

An increased number of visits by the public health inspectors and surveyors were made during the year. Such an increase in association with short staffing inevitably means less time for each visit, and indeed every fresh commitment means another commitment going by default.

FILTHY OR VERMINOUS PERSONS, PREMISES  
AND ARTICLES.

There was a substantial increase in visits made to verminous premises during the year, and several bad infestations came to light. One involved a group of farm cottages next to a farm yard, both yard and cottages being very heavily infested with fleas. Several treatments with large quantities of liquid and powder insecticides were necessary before the infestation was controlled.

No action was necessary in connection with filthy or verminous persons.



FOOD HYGIENE REGULATIONS - 1960.

The number of visits to food premises rose slightly from 82 in 1960 to 99 in 1961. It became necessary to formally report to the Council on the unsatisfactory state of two village shops, One was subsequently brought up to a satisfactory standard, but little was done in the other case despite letters and numerous visits. A formal report to Council was made in December, 1960, and with no positive results by November, 1961, the Council issued instructions for Court procedure to be taken. No action had been taken at the end of the year.

FOOD CONDEMNED.

- 111 lbs imported beef.
- 30 lbs bacon.
- 30 lbs apricots in syrup.

WATER SUPPLIES.

The situation remained substantially the same as the previous year. A few houses previously on standpipe supplies were given an internal supply with the help of Improvement Grants.

- (a). The water supplied by the Poole and East Dorset Water Board was satisfactory in quantity and quality, and plans were approved for the extension of the mains at West End, Spetisbury.
- (b) Samples submitted to the Public Health Laboratory at Dorchester were reported upon as follows:-

	<u>Satisfactory.</u>	<u>Unsatisfactory.</u>	<u>Total</u>
Water Board Supplies.....	33	1	34
Private Supplies and wells.....	16	13	29

The following information was supplied by the Board and is based upon the examinations made by the Board's chemist:-

<u>Distributed Water.</u> <u>Source.</u>	<u>Total Number</u> <u>of Samples.</u>	<u>M.O.H. Classification (Report 71)</u>			
		<u>1.</u>	<u>2.</u>	<u>3.</u>	<u>4.</u>
Milborne St. Andrew.	14	14	-	-	-
Black Lane.....	23	23	-	-	-
Bryanston.....	16	14	1	1	-
Blandford St. Mary..	4	4	-	-	-

<u>Raw Water.</u>	<u>Total Number</u> <u>of Samples.</u>	<u>M.O.H. Classification.</u>				<u>MAX FC</u> <u>at 37 deg.C.</u>	<u>Col. 1</u> <u>Demonstrated.</u>
		<u>1.</u>	<u>2.</u>	<u>3.</u>	<u>4.</u>		
Milborne St. Andrew.	20	13.	5.	2.	-	25	-
Black Lane.....	25	17	6	2	-	200	-
Bryanston.....	16	6	1	3	6	1500	-
Blandford St. Mary..	-8	8	-	-	-	11	5

LABORATORY REPORT - POOLE AND EAST DORSET WATER BOARD.

ANALYSIS OF A SAMPLE OF WATER taken on 8th February, 1961

from Milborne St. Andrew Pumping Station.

Labelled Raw Water Milborne St. Andrew.

Taken by Laboratory. Date:- 8.2.61. Time:- 11 a.m.

## CHEMICAL RESULTS IN MILLIGRAMS PER LITRE.

Appearance:- Colourless and clear.

pH..... 7.5. Taste and Odour:- Taste pleasant, odourless.

Hardness:- Total. 228.0. Temporary..... 193.8

Permanent..... 34.2

Total Solids, dried at 180 deg.C..... 314.0

Chlorine in Chlorides..... 14.2. Fluorine..... 0.04

Nitrates..... 3.8 Nitrites..... 0.001

Free Ammonia..... 0.028. Albuminoid Ammonia. 0.080

Metals..... Fe Cu Pb Zn Absent.

Free Carbon Dioxide..... 9.5

Residual Chlorine..... -

RADIOACTIVE SUBSTANCES.

Beta Activity in microcuries per millilitre:- Total B. Activity 0.19 x 10.8

K.085 ppm uc/ml

Signed... T.D. Elford..... 24/2/61

LABORATORY REPORT - POOLE AND EAST DORSET WATER BOARD.

ANALYSIS of a SAMPLE OF WATER taken on 16th January, 1961

from Black Lane Pumping Station.

Labelled:- Raw Water, Black Lane.

Taken by E.D.E.

16/1/61

11.00 a.m.

## CHEMICAL RESULTS IN MILLIGRAMS PER LITRE.

Appearance - Clear and bright.

pH..... 7.3. Taste and Odour... Taste pleasant;  
odourless.Hardness: Total..... 240.5. Temporary..... ~~207.7~~ 207.8  
Permanent..... 32.7

Total Solids, dried at 180 deg.C..... 331.0

Chlorine in Chlorides... 21.6... Fluorine..... Nil

Nitrates..... 2.48... Nitrites..... Nil

Free Ammonia..... 0.050 Albuminoid Ammonia..... 0.062

Metals..... Fe, Cu, Pb, Zn Absent.

Free Carbon Dioxide..... 11.3

Residual Chlorine..... -

RADIOACTIVE SUBSTANCES.

Beta Activity in microcuries per millilitre..... Not detected.

Signed..... E.D. Elford.

19/1/61



- (c) Plumbo-solvency is not a feature of the piped supplies.
- (d) Boiling or filtratration remains the only satisfactory method of dealing with contamination in those small areas awaiting a piped supply.
- (e) Statement of Water Supplies in the District at 31st December, 1961  
Figures based on information from County Planning Department - 14/9/61

PARISH	Total No. of		By Standpipe		HOUSES ON MAINS SUPPLY	
	Houses.	Population.	Houses.	Population.	Houses.	Inside Population.
Anderson.....	26	80	-	-	26	80
Blandford St. Mary.....	119	352	-	-	115	301
Bryanston.....	117	920	-	-	117	( with school 920
Charlton Marshall.....	219	761	-	-	180	( 676
Chettle.....	37	109	-	-	37	( with school 109
Durweston.....	106	450	6	12	94	( 423
		with school)				( with school
Farnham.....	65	205	-	-	64	204
Ilton.....	135	429	6	12	110	381
Iwerne Courtney.....	132	359	10	19	122	340
Langton Long.....	79	268	-	-	79	268
Milborne St. Andrew.....	180	537	3	2	176	533
Milton Abbas.....	188	783	8	20	180	( 763
		with school)				(with school
Pimperne.....	351	1104	1	1	347	1092
Spetisbury.....	148	477	7	13	129	734
Stepleton Iwerne.....	12	28	-	-	12	28
Stourpaine.....	137	378	14	17	108	307
Tarrant Crawford.....	11	35	-	-	11	35
Tarrant Gunville.....	91	270	-	-	86	258
Tarrant Hinton.....	57	182	-	-	57	182
Tarrant Keyneston.....	67	211	1	4	63	194
Tarrant Launceston.....	25	249	-	-	25	( 249
						( including camp.
Tarrant Monkton.....	38	611	-	-	38	611
						( including camp.
Tarrant Rawston.....	18	56	-	-	18	56
Tarrant Rushton.....	37	129	-	-	30	112
Turnworth.....	25	65	4	12	21	53
Winterborne Glenston....	22	68	3	8	20	67
Winterborne Houghton....	51	140	2	6	48	132
Winterborne Kingston....	130	384	5	10	120	363
Winterborne Stickland...	153	492	2	5	149	483
Winterborne Whitechurch.	135	491	6	24	123	445
						(including 35 caravans)
Winterborne Zelston.....	35	105	1	1	33	102

The figures in the above tables are reasonably accurate within the limitations of staffing.

# STATEMENT OF WATER SUPPLIES IN DISTRICT

AS AT 31st DECEMBER, 1961

PARISH	HOUSES ON PRIVATE SUPPLIES.		HOUSES ON WELLS.	
	STANDPIPES. Houses.	INSIDE. Population.	Houses.	Population.
Anderson.....	-	-	-	-
Blandford St. Mary....	2	-	2	4
Bryanston.....	-	-	-	-(includes
Charlton Marshall.....	-	23	10	25 public school)
Chettle.....	-	-	-	-
Durweston.....	-	4	2	5 (- ditto)
Farnham.....	-	11	1	16
Hilton.....	-	-	8	-
Iwerne Courtney.....	-	-	-	-
Langton Long.....	-	-	-	2
Milborne St. Andrew...	-	-	1	-( ditto)
Milton Abbas.....	-	3	-	-
Pimperne.....	-	12	(12)	(30) Private supplies
Spetisbury.....	-	11	4	- all based on
Stapleton Iwerne.....	-	-	-	17 wells)
Stourpaine.....	-	4	1	2
Tarrant Grawford.....	-	-	-	-
Tarrant Gunville.....	-	3	-	-
Tarrant Hinton.....	-	-	-	-
Tarrant Keyneston....	-	-	-	-
Tarrant Launceston....	-	-	-	-
Tarrant Monkton.....	-	-	-	-
Tarrant Rawston.....	-	6	1	3 - ditto -
Tarrant Rushton.....	-	-	-	-
Turnworth.....	-	-	-	-
Winterborne Clenston..	-	-	1	3
Winterborne Houghton..	-	-	1	2
Winterborne Kingston..	-	2	5	11
Winterborne Stickland.	-	6	-	-(includes 38
Winterborne Whitechurch.	-	-	1	2 caravans)
Winterborne Zelston....	-	-	-	-



## SEWERAGE.

### MILBORNE AND MILTON ABBAS JOINT SCHEME

11

At the end of the year orders had been received by builders to install drainage at the six cottages remaining to be connected to the sewer. In respect of two cottages, work had to be left until the subsoil water was sufficiently low and plans were expected for drainage work in respect of the other four.

The remainder of the Council houses were connected during the year.

### PIMPERNE.

The Pimperne Sewerage scheme was completed during the year. With the exception of ten premises where there is an absence of drainage, all the drainage to the individual houses was connected to the sewer by the Council's Contractors and the use of cesspools discontinued.

At the end of the year one of the remaining ten properties had been drained to the sewer, demolition orders had been made in respect of two, a closing order had been made in respect of one, the Owner/Occupier of another had been removed to hospital, plans had been received in respect of the drainage of another cottage, the Church was trying to find the finances to install drainage in the Church Hall and two other cottages had been vacated by the owner and are not intended to be used again.

It is to be hoped that the "teething" troubles being experienced with the pumping plant will soon be overcome, especially in view of the unsatisfactory emergency overflow which allows untreated and undiluted sewage to enter the stream upstream of the Blandford Camp borehole, whenever the pumps become inoperative for twenty-four hours.

### SHROTON

At Shroton, all the sewers were completed during the year. The works were substantially completed, but the use of the installation was likely to be held up pending the arrival and fitting up of the pumps. A few owners have already obtained approval of proposed installations and connections to the sewer.

In all cases, connection to the new sewer has been made relatively easy by the laying of a lateral pipe from the sewer to the boundary of each property, or to a convenient point where several properties will drain into the one connection.

It is a potential inconvenience to the public when plans of sewerage schemes are not available very soon after the installations are complete. At the present time the only plan fully available in the Department is of Milborne and Milton Abbas. Plans of all sewers, connections and plant should be available to the public immediately after completion of installations. Drainage work is held up because owners are unable to obtain estimates and contractors are unable to give estimates without this information.

No sewage samples were taken during the year, as no time was available for this.

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## HOUSING.

12

### A. New houses completed during the year:-

- |     |   |     |
|-----|---|-----|
| (1) | By Local Authority.                           |     |
| (a) | With State Assistance for re-housing.....     | 11  |
| (b) | With State Assistance for other purposes..... | 17  |
| (c) | Without State Assistance.....                 | -   |
| (2) | By other persons:-                            |     |
| (a) | With State Assistance.....                    | Nil |
| (b) | Without State Assistance.....                 | 49  |

### B. New houses commenced during the year but not completed:-

- |     |                         |    |
|-----|-------------------------|----|
| (1) | By Local Authority..... | 69 |
| (2) | By other persons.....   | 16 |

### C. Housing Inspections:-

- |     |   |    |
|-----|---|----|
| (1) | Total number of dwellings inspected for housing defects...  | 69 |
| (2) | Total number of houses found to be so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for habitation..... | 16 |
| (3) | Number of houses found not to be in all respects fit for habitation.....                                  | 48 |

### D. Housing Action:-

- |     |  |    |
|-----|--|----|
| (1) | Number of dwellings rendered fit after informal action....           | 22 |
| (2) | Number of Statutory Notices served.....                              | 6  |
| (3) | Number of Statutory Notices complied with.....                       | 6  |
| (4) | Number of houses in respect of which Demolition Orders made.         | 8  |
| (5) | Number of houses in respect of which Undertakings were accepted..... | 7  |
| (6) | Number of houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders.....   | 6  |

### Houses Demolished.

2 cottages, Tarrant Crawford. (fell down)  
2 cottages, Main Road, Blandford St. Mary.  
Cottage, Farm Road, Anderson.  
Cottage, Stoney Lawn, Winterborne Kingston.

### Demolition Orders made - not yet complied with.

1 and 2 Main Road, Anderson.

Two cottages, Thornicombe.

Two cottages, Lower Blandford St. Mary

Stour View, Blandford St. Mary

Cottage, Church Hill, Milborne.

Two cottages, North Street, Winterborne Kingston.

Kozy Kott, Winterborne Kingston

18 Havelins, Stourpaine.

20 Havelins, Stourpaine,

3, South Holme, Stourpaine.

7, South Holme, Stourpaine.

9, South Holme, Stourpaine.

Cottage next Public House, Tarrant Keyneston.

### Undertakings accepted.

Cottage next Chapel, Winterborne Kingston

South West Farm Cottage, Winterborne Kingston.

No. 171 Muston.

Reads Cottage, Blandford St. Mary



HOUSING - Contd.Statutory Notices Served.

20 Manor Road, Stourpaine.	Work done
22 Manor Road, Stourpaine.	Work done
24 Manor Road, Stourpaine.	Work done
4 School Lane, Blandford St. Mary.	Work done
Cottage, Dorchester Hill, Blandford St. Mary.	Work done.
58, Shaston Road, Stourpaine.	Work done.

Preliminary Notices served.

1 and 2 Bere Road, Winterborne Kingston.	Work done.
2 Cottages, West Down, Winterborne Kingston.	
The Pound, Winterborne Houghton.	
2 Cottages, Bere Road, Winterborne Kingston.	
169/170 East Street, Winterborne Kingston.	Work done.
Gent, West Street, Winterborne Stickland.	Work done
Stickland Farm, Winterborne Stickland.	Work done.
Owl's Lodge, Thornicombe.	
Hoopers Cottages, Winterborne Tomson.	Work done
10, 17, 18 and 19 Turnworth.	Work done in two.
Crown House, Milborne.	Work done.
Four cottages, Milton Mills, Milton Abbas.	
Cottage, West Street, Winterborne Stickland.	Work done.
Cottage, Blandford Hill, Milborne.	Work done.
Pair cottages, Bere Road, Winterborne Kingston	

GRANTS.

There was a decrease of 20% in the number of discretionary grant applications, and a decrease of 35% in the number of standard grant applications. There was a slight reduction in the average cost of discretionary grant work from £320 to £290 per dwelling, but an increase in the average cost of standard grant work from £133 to £148 per dwelling.

An interesting feature this year was that, of the discretionary grant applications, exactly 50% were in respect of tenanted properties and in the case of standard grants 33% were for tenanted properties. In both cases the figures show an increase in the number of tenanted properties being improved by way of grants.

Details for 1961 are:-

Discretionary Grants.

Applications received.....	21
Applications approved.....	18 (3 withdrawn)
Number of houses involved.....	26 (13 tenanted)
Amount allocated.....	£7,597.

Standard Grants.

Applications received.....	26
Applications approved.....	24 (2 withdrawn)
No. of houses involved.....	24 (6 tenanted)

## CARAVANS

The introduction of the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act in August, 1960, represented a welcome advance and gave local authorities wide powers to assume more effective control. The Act led to a considerable amount of administration work in drawing up conditions to be required on sites, and these were accepted by the Council. No site in multiple occupation can now be used without compliance with these conditions and the number of sites can now be controlled.

It is understood that in some parts of the country, conditions, which might be considered onerous, have been imposed upon prospective tenants of a vacant standing. These are said to be that the caravan to be used must be purchased from the site owner, or if not, compensation paid for loss of the sale. Even when a caravan is purchased on a site in this way the owner may then be subjected to similar conditions when he wishes to move to another site.

Local Authority operated sites would appear to be one solution of this problem.

## STATUTORY NUISANCES.

A complaint was made by local residents under the Noise Abatement Act, 1960, concerning the noise from a static Diesel exhaust which projected from a wall alongside a country road. The engine drove a milking machine and was operated during early morning and afternoon without respite, and particularly affected the occupants of the house opposite, whose sleep was disturbed at 6 a.m. every morning.

A recommendation was made to Council that the case constituted a Statutory Nuisance under the new Act.

No action was taken under Part III of the Public Health Act, 1960.

Vigorous and sustained complaints were made by numerous householders about the offensive smell from a huge pile of pig manure. A deputation of the public health committee subsequently visited the site. No action was taken under Part III but the matter was eventually settled on a fairly neighbourly basis and no further complaints have been made to date.

Reference was made last year to a complaint by a local doctor about a disgusting quagmire in front of two pensioners' cottages. A recommendation had been made to the Council that this constituted a Statutory Nuisance. No action had been taken under Part III.

These unpleasant conditions recurred during wet weather in 1961. No action was taken under Part III to abate this nuisance for the old folk.



### COMPLAINTS.

These were roughly equal in number to those received during the previous year.

Complaints are still received of neighbours failing to maintain their part of a stream and in one case the complaint was that a neighbour had diverted a stream completely.

Written or verbal advice usually had the desired effect and it was not found necessary to issue notices.

The complaints were made up as follows:-

Housing.....	10
Drainage.....	13
Infestations.....	7
Keeping of animals.	4
Refuse.....	3
Smells.....	4
Flooding.....	4
Smoke.....	0
Noise.....	1
Miscellaneous.....	2

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### REFUSE AND SALVAGE.

There was a drop of 32% in the salvage figures for the year, the total income being £177, compared with £272 for 1960. The fall in sales was due almost entirely to the long hours worked by the collecting staff who consequently were unable to spend their evenings baling and sorting. There were only three sales of waste paper and three of scrap metal during the twelve months, compared with a total of ten the previous year. Prices remained about the same as before.

There have been no complaints from the workmen regarding the longer hours being worked but it is unlikely that they could be replaced under the present conditions.

Meetings took place between the Camp Authorities and the Council's Representatives regarding the possibility of using the old Camp refuse tip. The Council have subsequently decided not to proceed in view of the relatively short length of life the site offered.

The salvage figures for 1961 are:-

Cardboard.....	£5. 7. 0.
Waste paper.....	£117.11. 6
Rags.....	£7. 5. 6.
Woollens.....	£3. 4. 6.
Iron scrap.....	£22.15. 0
Brass scrap.....	£6. 0. 0.
Copper scrap.....	£3. 9. 8.
Aluminium scrap....	£9.19. 6
Batteries.....	£1. 6. 0

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FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

There was no change in the number of factories registered but a slight reduction in the number of inspections made .

Two informal requests to remedy lack of cleanliness were complied with.

## (1) Inspections for purpose of provisions as to health:-

<u>Premises.</u>	<u>No. on Register.</u>	<u>Inspections.</u>	<u>No. of Written Notices.</u>	<u>Occupiers Prosecuted.</u>
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4, & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.....	35	18	Nil	Nil
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.....	18	18	Nil	Nil
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers premises.).....	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
	53	36	Nil	Nil

## (2) Cases in which defects were found:-

<u>Particulars.</u>	<u>Number of cases in which defects were found.</u>				<u>No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted.</u>
	<u>Found.</u>	<u>Remedied.</u>	<u>Referred to H.M. Inspector.</u>	<u>by H.M. Inspect.</u>	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
Want of cleanliness (S1).	2	2	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S2)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (S3)	1	-	1	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (S4)	1	-	1	-	-
TOTALS.	4	2	2	-	-



### RODENT CONTROL

During the rodent officer's absence due to illness, routine work was continued on a part time basis by Mr. Cutler, lately a rodent operator with the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food. Only the more urgent cases were dealt with during this period.

It was noted that there was a higher than usual increase of infestations during the Autumn and an increase in the number of major infestations treated. The skeleton treatment during the summer and absence of routine inspections could have been responsible for this, but it is understood that similar conditions prevailed throughout the West Country.

	<u>Council Premises.</u>	<u>Private Premises.</u>	<u>Business Premises.</u>	<u>Agric. Premises.</u>
Total number of visits made.....	46	885	60	132
Total number of premises				
(a) inspected on complaint.....	-	124	2	8
(b) inspected on survey.....	17	177	29	29
Total number of premises				
(a) treated for rat infestation.....	6	164	-	9
(b) treated for mouse infestation.....	-	18	1	1

No notices were served under Section 4 of the Act indicating that the staff have obtained full co-operation from occupiers, although at times this has been late in forthcoming.

### THE LAND DRAINAGE ACT, 1961.

This Act came into operation in July, 1961, and gave district Councils the power to carry out works for the prevention of flooding.

Late in 1960 a superficial survey of flooding in the rural district was made by the staff and a report presented to the Council made it clear that the major part of this flooding was caused by the failure to keep the ditches, streams and rivers flowing freely.

Up to the present time the co-operation of land owners has been sought in the form of a circular letter, sometimes with little success, but with the powers obtained under the new Act, a Local Authority are able to carry out work to prevent, remedy or mitigate any damage caused by flooding. Such work carried out in your district would be of great benefit to areas now subject to occasional flooding and some of this work was in fact done during the autumn by the Roads and Bridges Department of the County Council, but not charged to this Council.

### WASP AND FLY INFESTATIONS.

These were fewer than in previous years. A few wild bee colonies were dealt with, one in a Church in which services had been disrupted.

SUMMARY OF VISITS..... 1961

Nuisances.....	92
Housing Acts.....	861
Food premises.....	99
Building Byelaws.....	926
Drainage.....	427
Water supplies.....	28
Water samples.....	63
Refuse.....	80
Factories.....	18
Rats/Mice.....	7
Dangerous buildings.....	2
Rights of way.....	2
Rivers pollution and prevention of flooding.....	21
Sewerage.....	393
Petroleum.....	45
Infestations.....	39
Caravans.....	93
Keeping of animals.....	5
Noise abatement.....	16
Town and Country Planning.....	60
No. of Meetings attended.....	93
Miscellaneous.....	58





